

## LISTING OF CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions in the application:

1. (currently amended) A method of determining whether a transaction involving a financial instrument is in compliance with investment objectives associated with an investment portfolio, the method comprising the steps of:
  - a) providing at least one rule pertaining to an investment objective, the at least one rule including a reference to a dynamic database, the dynamic database containing a plurality of ~~related~~ entries related to the at least one rule;
  - b) applying the at least one rule to an investment request regarding a transaction involving a financial instrument;
  - c) incorporating each of the related entries referring to the dynamic database to incorporate each related entry contained therein in the dynamic database into the at least one rule; ~~and~~
  - d) determining whether the investment request complies with the at least one rule and
  - e) communicating to a user via an output device whether the investment request complies with the at least one rule.
2. (currently amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the step of incorporating each of the related entries into the at least one rule referring to the dynamic database includes referring to a dynamic list stored within the dynamic database.

3. (original) A method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of storing the at least one rule in a rules database.
4. (original) A method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of receiving the investment request from an interested party.
5. (original) A method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of reporting, to an interested party, whether the investment request complies with the at least one rule.
6. (original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the step of applying the at least one rule to an investment request is executed by an interested party.
7. (original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the step of applying the at least one rule to an investment request is self-executing.
8. (original) A method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of modifying the dynamic database.
9. (original) A method according to claim 2, further comprising the step of providing at least one dynamic entry in a dynamic list stored within the dynamic database.
10. (currently amended) A method of determining whether an investment portfolio is in compliance with investment objectives, the method comprising the steps of:

- a) providing at least one rule pertaining to an investment objective, the at least one rule including a reference to a dynamic database, the dynamic database containing a plurality of ~~related entries~~ related to the at least one rule;
- b) applying the at least one rule to the investment portfolio;
- c) incorporating each of the related entries ~~referring to the dynamic database to incorporate each entry contained therein in the dynamic database~~ into the at least one rule; ~~and~~
- d) determining whether the investment portfolio complies with the at least one rule and
- e) communicating to a user via an output device whether the investment portfolio complies with the at least one rule.

11. (currently amended) A method according to claim 10, wherein the step of incorporating each of the related entries into the at least one rule ~~referring to the dynamic database~~ includes referring to a dynamic list stored within the dynamic database.
12. (original) A method according to claim 10, further comprising the step of storing the at least one rule in a rules database.
13. (original) A method according to claim 10, further comprising the step of receiving financial data relating to financial instruments contained in the investment portfolio.

14. (original) A method according to claim 10, further comprising the step of reporting, to an interested party, whether the investment portfolio complies with the at least one rule.
15. (original) A method according to claim 10, wherein the step of applying the at least one rule to the investment portfolio is executed by an interested party.
16. (original) A method according to claim 10, wherein the step of applying the at least one rule to an investment portfolio is self-executing.
17. (original) A method according to claim 10, further comprising the step of modifying a dynamic list stored within the dynamic database.
18. (original) A method according to claim 12, further comprising the step of providing at least one dynamic entry in a dynamic list within the dynamic database.
19. (currently amended) A system for determining whether a transaction involving a financial instrument is in compliance with investment objectives associated with an investment portfolio, the system comprising:
  - a) a memory storing: i) at least one rule pertaining to an investment objective, the at least one rule including a reference to a dynamic list; and ii) a dynamic list containing a plurality of ~~related~~ entries related to the at least one rule; and
  - b) a processor in communication with the memory and configured to: i) incorporate each related entry contained in the dynamic list into the at least one rule and apply

the at least one rule to an investment request regarding a transaction involving a financial instrument ~~by referring to the dynamic list, and incorporating each entry contained in the dynamic list into the at least one rule;~~ and ii) determine whether the investment request is in compliance with the at least one rule, and  
c) an output device interfacing with the processor and displaying to a user whether the investment request is in compliance with the at least one rule.

20. (original) A system as recited in claim 19, further comprising means for receiving an investment request from an interested party.
21. (original) A system as recited in claim 19, further comprising means for reporting whether an investment request complies with the at least one rule.
22. (original) A system as recited in claim 19, further comprising means for modifying a dynamic list.
23. (original) A system as recited in claim 19, wherein the dynamic list includes at least one dynamic entry.
24. (currently amended) A system for determining whether an investment portfolio is in compliance with investment objectives, the system comprising:

- a) a memory storing: i) at least one rule pertaining to an investment objective, the at least one rule including at least one reference to a dynamic list; ii) a dynamic list containing a plurality of ~~related entries~~ related to the at least one rule; and
  - b) a processor in communication with the memory and configured to: i) incorporate each related entry contained in the dynamic list into the at least one rule; and apply the at least one rule to the investment portfolio ~~by referring to the dynamic list to incorporate each entry contained in the dynamic list into the at least one rule~~; and ii) determine whether the investment portfolio complies with the at least one rule, and
  - c) an output device interfacing with the processor and displaying to a user whether the investment request is in compliance with the at least one rule.
25. (original) A system as recited in claim 24, further comprising means for reporting whether an investment portfolio complies with the at least one rule.
26. (original) A system as recited in claim 24, further comprising means for modifying a dynamic list.
27. (original) A system as recited in claim 24, wherein a dynamic list includes at least one dynamic entry.
28. (withdrawn) A method of performing a task based on an instructional statement submitted to a computerized portfolio management system comprising the steps of: a) providing an

instructional statement relating to the performance of a specified task, the instructional statement including a reference to a dynamic database containing a plurality of related entries; b) accessing the dynamic database; c) incorporating each of the related entries in the dynamic database into the instructional statement; and d) applying the instructional statement to perform the specified task.

29. (withdrawn) A method according to claim 28, wherein the instructional statement defines a compliance rule pertaining to an investment objective.
30. (withdrawn) A method according to claim 29, wherein the application of the instructional statement includes the step of determining whether an investment request relating to a financial instrument is in compliance with an investment objective.
31. (withdrawn) A method according to claim 28, wherein the instructional statement defines spread pricing criteria for an investment in a financial instrument.
32. (withdrawn) A method according to claim 31, wherein the application of the instructional statement includes the step of determining credit spread risk relating to the investment.
33. (withdrawn) A method according to claim 28, wherein the instructional statement defines report generating criteria relating to a portfolio of financial instruments.

34. (withdrawn) A method according to claim 33, wherein the application of the instructional statement includes the step of generating a portfolio report based upon the report generating criteria.
35. (withdrawn) A method according to claim 28, wherein the instructional statement defines trade routing criteria relating to a transaction involving a financial instrument.
36. (withdrawn) A method according to claim 35, wherein the application of the instructional statement includes the step of routing information relating to a transaction involving a financial instrument to designated parties interested in the transaction.